

TRIBUTE TO MGM BRAKES ON ITS  
50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MELVIN L. WATT**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor MGM Brakes, headquartered in Charlotte, NC, on its 50th anniversary.

MGM Brakes is a division of Indian Head Industries, Inc., also headquartered in Charlotte, NC, and maintains manufacturing facilities in Cloverdale, CA and Murphy, NC.

MGM Brakes was founded in 1956 and is a leading U.S. manufacturer of spring parking brakes and actuators for vehicles with air brakes. Fifty years ago the company's founders (Miller, Gummer and Meyers) invented the spring brake actuator to prevent air braking failures in heavy, over-the-road vehicles that usually resulted in runaway vehicles. MGM Brakes is now a leading world-wide supplier to the commercial vehicle industry and its actuator products have become standard equipment on more than 125 makes of commercial vehicles currently manufactured in over 40 countries.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to MGM Brakes and its employees for 50 years of pioneering technology and innovative products that have helped increase the safety of commercial vehicles, transit buses and school buses across the states and around the country.

HONORING JEANETTE L. STERNER  
OF HOLLY LAKE RANCH

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the outstanding contributions of COL Jeanette L. Sterner of Holly Lake Ranch in Wood County, Texas. Colonel Sterner has spent a lifetime in service to her country in the United States military and in the process has earned a multitude of honors including: the Meritorious Service Medal; an Army Commendation Medal; an Army Achievement Medal; an Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; a National Defense Service Medal; a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; an Armed Forces Reserve Medal; an Army Service Ribbon; and a Sharpshooter Badge.

During her years of service to the United States, she also earned five State awards: the Oklahoma Meritorious Service Medal; the Iowa Achievement Medal; the Iowa Commendation Medal; the State of Texas Medal of Merit; and the Texas Adjutant General Individual Award.

Jeanette's service to her country does not end with her military heroism. She has also served her local community in a variety of ways including youth involvement. She has worked as a school psychologist for Sacred Heart Catholic School, for Mount Saint Mary's High School, for Christ the King School, and has even managed to find time to serve as a youth director for her church.

She has earned numerous civilian awards and memberships for her efforts, including

Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Biographee for the Directory of Distinguished Americans, and Personalities of the South.

Jeanette currently serves as president of the Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas, working diligently to obtain single residence housing for homeless veterans. In addition, she serves as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Greater Hawkins Veterans Association, maintaining a memorial in honor of local veterans.

Without a doubt, Jeanette's service to her community is extensive, and on behalf of the people living in the 5th District of Texas, I applaud her for her commitment to both her community and her country.

THANKING MR. WILLIAM CHAMP  
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement this month, we rise to thank Mr. William Champ for his long career of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

William Champ has been an employee of the Furniture Division, Cabinet Shop of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House for 30 years. During that time, he has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow co-workers. Bill is a person of great character and will leave behind a legacy of professionalism, hard work and dedication to the institution. His list of accomplishments is far too lengthy to include in this tribute, but includes the lecterns in the House Chamber of the U.S. Capitol Building that every Member of Congress uses during each session, a key fixture seen by millions of people all over the world. Bill was a key member of the team that designed and constructed the lecterns. He was also instrumental in the renovation of the audio/video upgrade of the Ways and Means Committee Room.

Bill's retirement is bittersweet; the House will lose an individual who from day one of his employment made a long term commitment to excellence. His performance has always been exceptional and above and beyond expectations. His legacy will live on in the Chamber of the U.S. House of Representatives as we wish him many wonderful years of happy retirement.

GOODBYE TO COLLEAGUES

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 6, 2006*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, as our colleague, the Honorable gentleman from New York, SHERWOOD BOEHLERT, prepares to retire from the Congress, I want to join the entire New York delegation in wishing SHERRY a fond farewell and in commending him for a job very well done.

SHERRY BOEHLERT has served the people of the 24th Congressional District, which includes all or parts of Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Herkimer, Oneida, Ontario, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, and Seneca counties, for 12 consecutive terms. He has been my congressional neighbor to the west for as long as I have been in Congress. We have had the opportunity to work together on many issues, such as the Tech Valley initiative in upstate New York, the FAIR Alliance for transportation funding, and, of course, rooting on our beloved New York Yankees.

With expertise and leadership in so many different fields, from the environment and the sciences, to transportation and homeland security, SHERRY has not only capably served the people of his district, but also every citizen of New York and the United States.

SHERRY has earned the opportunity to spend more time with his wife, Marianne, their four grown children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call SHERRY BOEHLERT a respected colleague and a dear friend. His presence and strong voice will be missed during the coming debates. There is no doubt, however, that his proud legacy of committed public service and bipartisan achievement, will live on for generations.

PRAISING THE GOALS OF THE 2006  
NATIONAL RAIL SYMPOSIUM

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, on November 15, 2006, I had the opportunity to address the 2006 National Rail Symposium, presented by Citizens for Rail Safety, Inc. at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Attended by rail worker union representatives, rail industry experts, transportation scholars, and local and Federal political leaders, the symposium served to further highlight the glaring gaps in America's rail security and specifically, bring attention to the lack of basic emergency and antiterrorism training for our Nation's rail workers.

Notably, the symposium marked the release of a key rail security study prepared by the National Labor College (NLC) entitled: "Training in Hazmat and Rail Security: Current Status and Future Needs of Rail Workers and Community Members." As noted by the NLC, our Nation's rail workers currently lack basic and necessary emergency prevention and response training, particularly with respect to Hazmat incidents, and must work in rail cars and on rail tracks, yards, and basic infrastructure that are poorly secured.

The NLC's study comes on the heels of a 2005 rail worker safety report prepared by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Rail Security Conference, entitled "High Alert: Workers Warn of Security Gaps on Nation's Railroads." Based on over 4,000 surveys completed by members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division, the report reveals that 84 percent of the rail workers surveyed indicated that they had not received any or additional terrorism prevention and response training within the last year and that 64 percent indicated that